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APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Assistance to the National Institute of Veterinary Medicine (LAO/77/001)

Report of the Administrator*

Date of present approval:	February 1978
Starting date of project activities:	February 1978
Planned completion date:	June 1980
To be executed by:	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
Estimated cost of assistance planned under present approval:	$868 400
Source of UNDP financing:	Indicative Planning Figure (IPF)

I. Background

1. Livestock production in the Lao People's Democratic Republic is severely limited by the high incidence of infectious diseases and parasites among domestic animals and poultry. It is estimated that there is a 50 per cent mortality rate for cattle caused by endemic diseases. These livestock losses have become a relatively greater burden on the economy in the last two years because of the drastic reduction in food production brought about by natural disasters.

2. In two successive UNDP/FAO-assisted projects, Veterinary Medicine (LAO/68/008 and LAO/72/005)[1/], assistance was provided for the establishment of laboratories for the production of bacterial and viral vaccines. The Government has now decided to integrate these laboratories into the newly-created National Institute of Veterinary Medicine. The Institute will not only produce vaccines but also serve as the focal point for nation-wide animal health programmes. Buildings for the Institute, which is located at Nong-Teng (10 kilometers from Vientiane), are being financed by the non-governmental organization, Brot Fur Die Welt.

1/ DP/PROJECTS/1112.

* In accordance with General Assembly resolution 2688 (XXV) and subsequent authorizati the UNDP Governing Council, reports are issued seriatim on the approval of UNDP assistance of $250,000 or more (including, if any, assistance financed by Government or by third-party cost sharing).

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II. Objectives and activities

The long-term objective of the project is to reduce the levels of livestock rbidity and mortality to 10 and 5 per cent respectively over a period of 10 years. The mediate aim is to establish the Institute which will require: (a) organization of the o vaccine production services (bacteriology and virology) and the three diagnostic rvices (parasitology, bacteriology and virology) at the new premises of the Institute;) continuation of existing vaccine production and the introduction of new types using dern methods, such as lyophilisation, with a production target of 10 million doses in 80; (c) the training by 1980 of three senior officers, 22 laboratory technicians and enty-two laboratory assistants; (d) in-service training for personnel of the provincial terinary services; (e) establishment of a documentation centre at the Institute; and) creation of a co-ordinating committee to harmonize, where applicable, animal and man health programmes.

III. Inputs

Under the assistance now approved, UNDP will provide, through the Executing Agency: e services of a project co-ordinator (virologist), bacteriologist, paristologist and dministrative support staff; fellowships; vehicles; office equipment and supplies; boratory equipment and supplies and diagnostic instruments; and miscellaneous costs.

To carry out the activities for which assistance is approved, the Government will ke available: veterinary officers for the technical departments of the Institute; boratory technicians and aides; administrative support staff; buildings; equipment; d operating costs for the Institute.

IV. Financial data

The expenditure components of the planned assistance are as follows:

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International personnel	424 000
Fellowships	45 400
Equipment	373 100
Miscellaneous	25 900
	868 400

The estimated total value, expressed in US dollars, of inputs provided directly by e Government to the project is $199,900 in kind.

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